

X

# MONTHLY NOTICES

OF THE

## ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

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No. I

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W. H. M. CHRISTIE, M.A., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.  
 Richard Evan Day, M.A., 135 Fellows Road, Hampstead, N.W.;  
 Philip F. Duke, Hendon, Middlesex;  
 The Rev. Thomas Jones, B.A., LL.D., Curdworth Rectory,  
 Birmingham,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

S. C. Chandler, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.;  
 N. C. Dunér, Director of the Observatory, Upsala, Sweden;  
 Paul Henry, Astronome à l'Observatoire, Paris;  
 Prosper Henry, Astronome à l'Observatoire, Paris,  
 were balloted for and duly elected Associates of the Society.

The following candidates were proposed as Fellows of the Society, the name of the proposer from personal knowledge being appended:—

Albert Fowell Austin, Schoolmaster, Luton, Bedfordshire (proposed by Alfred F. Smith);  
 Algernon Sidney Bicknell, Staplefield Place, Crawley, Sussex (proposed by A. A. Compton);  
 The Rev. George Burgess, The Woodlands, Urmston, Manchester (proposed by the Rev. J. Burgess);  
 Démétrius Eginitis, D. ès Sc., Astronome à l'Observatoire de Paris (proposed by A. Cowper Ranyard);  
 George Richard Farncombe, M.A., Green Hill, Handsworth, near Birmingham (proposed by Sir R. S. Ball);  
 Vernon Edwin Knocke, Solicitor, Castle Hill House, Dover (proposed by Edmund J. Spitta);

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Benjamin Noble, Gloucester House, Newcastle-on-Tyne (proposed by A. Cowper Ranyard);  
 Henry William Lloyd Tanner, M.A., The Abbotts, Clive Road, Penarth, Cardiff (proposed by Sir James Cockle);  
 R. Lethbridge Tapscott, Owen's College, Manchester (proposed by the Rev. C. R. Gordon);  
 William Grasett Thackeray, Royal Observatory, Greenwich (proposed by W. H. M. Christie).

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*Report of the Eclipse Committee of the Royal Astronomical Society, 1889 October 3. Drawn up by H. H. Turner, Secretary to the Committee.*

The preparations which have been made since the last meeting of the Committee for observing the Total Solar Eclipse of 1889, December 21-22, are summarised in the following report:—

1. Application was made by the Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society to the Government Grant Committee of the Royal Society for a sum of 400*l.* for the observation of this eclipse. This application was granted. A sum of 120*l.* has since been paid to Mr. A. A. Common for the mounting of two silver-on-glass mirrors of 20-inch aperture and 45-inch focus, to be used on these expeditions. The mountings are thus the property of the Royal Society by the terms of their grant; and to complete the instruments Mr. Common will present the mirrors to that Society, so that by an expenditure of 120*l.* alone two first-class instruments, of whose excellence more will be said hereafter, will be acquired for eclipse and other work.

Sums of 100*l.* and 120*l.* have also been paid to the observers, the Rev. S. J. Perry and Mr. A. Taylor respectively, for their expenses on the expedition. Mr. Taylor will necessarily make a longer stay at his station, and his journey will be more expensive. The remaining 60*l.* is still in the bank, and will be available for contingencies.

2. On application by the Secretary of this Committee, Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., the proprietors of the line of steamers by which Mr. Taylor reaches Loanda, have generously consented to convey him at half the usual fare.

A similar application has been made to the Royal Mail Steamship Company, by whose line the Rev. S. J. Perry reaches Barbados; and the directors have similarly consented to convey him and his assistant to the West Indies for 35*l.* each return fare.

3. Application was made by the Secretary of the Society to the Admiralty for assistance at each of the stations, and the Admiralty have given directions that a vessel should be at the